Silting of Hirakund Reservoir

4407. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hirakund Reservoir in Orissa is silting up at a very fast rate ;

(b) if so, the reasons of the silting up of the Hirakund Reservoir and

(c) the details of steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Silting of reservoirs is a natural phenomenon. According to the latest hydrological survey conducted during 1983—86. the reservoir is not silting up at a very fast rate.

(c) In order to reduce the rate of siltation in the reservoir, soil conservation measures have been taken up in the catchment area.

Soil Erosion in Orissa

4408. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether soil erosion has posed a serious problem in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the total are as in the State of Orissa affected by different kinds of erosions ; and

(c) the steps taken to tackle with the soil erosion problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) : Estimates made by various Committees/ Commissions indicate that an area of about 7.8 m. ha. is affected by soil erosion and land degradation in the State of Orissa.

(c) The measures taken to check soil erosion consist of Vegetative, engineering and improved management practices such as bunding, terracing, improved crop production technology horticulture plantatiion, afforestation grassland development, guily control,stream bank control, check dams, water harvesting structures etc.

Jobs to Dependents of Deceased Government Servants on Compassionate ground.

4409. SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the Government of India, Deptt. of Personnel and Training letter No. 14014/6/66-Estt. (D) dated the 30th June, 1987 regarding compassionate appointment of dependents of deceased Government servants and to state :

(a) whether the Government allows relaxation in age, qualifications, test standards etc. to the dependent of deceased employees ;

(b) if so, the extent to which the above said relaxations are given; and

(c) whether calling the dependents of deceased employees directly for test/interview etc. without providing them any sort of relaxation in age test/interview standards etc. is considered as a compassionate ground case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) For appointment on compassionate grounds, relaxation is permissible in respect of age, recruitment procedure and educational qualification to the extent indicated in